

The Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association

Minutes of the monthly meeting of The Board of Directors, April 1, 2023.

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M. by President Robert Carlyle. Board members present in person at the Community Center (Station 79 grounds): Robert Carlyle, Tom Mendenhall, Keith Ronchetti, Mark Thompson. Board member Michael Pique was present by Zoom teleconference. Also present in person were Cliff Kellogg, Lafe Ball, CAL FIRE Firefighter Todd Gailey, and CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Adam Gettman. Attending by Zoom teleconference were Yvonne Vaucher, Elizabeth Getzoff, Ryan Flohr, Rosie Lopresti, Jack Weisgerber, and Bill Leininger.

Pledge: Robert led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None offered

Minutes: The minutes from the 02/04/2023 board meeting were approved. Because of heavy snow, there was no March meeting.

Financial Report: Keith Ronchetti's written report (available at palomar-fire.org) showed a balance of \$88,222.32 (plus \$2253.71 held for CERT). The only recent expense was \$202.91 for a flag and stand. Various government forms have been completed and submitted. The report was approved.

Station 79 Report: Firefighter Gailey stressed that emergency vehicle access to houses is top priority. Please remind everyone not to block the side roads or driveways with cars, especially on snow days. Battalion Chief Gettman said that the record-breaking winter snows made it clear that we need county-wide agreements to get the fire stations plowed.

County Fire Advisory (CFA) Board, Cliff Kellogg: The March 6 meeting discussed moving to "dual drivers" on the outlying stations. There is also a plan to throttle response of all of a station's equipment when only medical aid is needed. A proposal is afoot to increase the fire mitigation fee for residential construction from \$0.58 per square foot to \$2.89 per square foot. The meeting discussed the San Diego County "fire hazard severity zone" map. Chief Gettman says that map was drawn strictly for wildfire response planning, but insurance companies are using it to adjust rates and policies. The public comment period on the map has been extended to April 20.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): Bill Leininger says another CERT academy training program has been completed. We now have 13 active CERT members including three new ones. We are organizing the gear in the trailer. Last weekend, some members went to the Julian workshop on wildfire "last chance survival." We hope to send some members up to the bay area meeting this spring.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (FSC) Yvonne Vaucher: The council has about \$4000 in unrestricted funds. We have submitted a CCI grant application for about

\$165,000 to pay for chipping and tree clearing. The San Diego Regional Fire Foundation (SDRFF) grant has ended, a new application is due April 18. We have some funds left over: enough to get two more dumpster weekends. The dumpster weekends now cost \$800 each, a big increase. We have 8 1/2 chipping days available, perhaps more – they have to be used by the end of July. The scheduled April 22 FSC meeting is canceled because Yvonne will be away. The scheduled May 27 meeting conflicts with the PMPO Annual Meeting and pancake breakfast. We will work out how to adjust. The FSC written report will be posted at palomar-fire.org.

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM): Rosie Lopresti reminded us that she and Jack are not seeking CCPM Board reelection for 2023-24. The Palomar Mountain Church has signed the license agreement with the county. Cliff Kellogg says we need to work out a method to schedule the community center building and also to discuss the furnishings inside.

Board Insurance: Robert Carlyle is still trying to obtain the Class A fire insurance the PMVFD/PMCFA needs to carry. He is waiting for the report from the California FAIR plan inspector who came up almost three months ago.

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO) Michael Pique (Secretary): next board meeting is today, following this meeting. The Annual General Meeting and Pancake Breakfast will be held Saturday 05/27/2023 (Memorial Day weekend) at 10 AM.

Adjournment: 9:50 AM 04/01/2023. The next PMCFA meeting is Saturday May 6, 2023, at 9 AM, at Station 79. We hope to have Zoom and telephone call-ins available.

- Michael Pique, Secretary. Minutes approved by PMCFA Board 05/06/2023.